

REMARKS

With the above amendments, claims 1, 3-23, and 28-32 remain in the application. Claims 2 and 24-27 have been canceled without prejudice.

In response to the restriction requirement of the last office action, Applicants hereby elect without traverse Group I, claims 1-23 and 28-32 for prosecution. Accordingly, claims 24-27 have been canceled. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue these canceled claims in a continuing or divisional application.

In response to the species election of the last office action, Applicants hereby elect with traverse Species A, etching of copper with sulfuric acid and hydrogen peroxide (claims 1, 3, and 13). Applicants elect with traverse to the extent that claims 9 and 10 are not part of Species A. It is respectfully submitted that claims 9 and 10 recite further steps of the method of claim 1. That is, claims 9 and 10 continue from the method of claim 1, not alternative species. It is well understood that applicants generally have the right to claim as many steps of a method in an application.

Accordingly, species A is elected with traverse. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18 are readable on Species A. As mentioned, the Examiner is respectfully requested to include claims 9 and 10 in Species A. Claim 9 is a method that includes etching of a second layer in addition to the etching of the first layer in claim 1. Claim 10 is a method that includes etching of a third layer in addition to the etching of the second layer in claim 9 and the first layer in claim 1.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (408)436-2112 for any questions. If for any reason an insufficient fee has been paid, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the insufficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-2427.

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Respectfully submitted,  
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